

Annual Report

2016 - 2017



AVISHKAR

Association for Village Institutions Social Health, Agriculture and Rural Development

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VISION

Efforts towards involving the community in the development process through awareness creation on their potential and resources for achieving self reliant social and economic development initiatives. This will be achieved through enhancement of skills and capabilities of the communities and involving them actively in the development process.

MISSION

Creates opportunities for providing sustainable livelihoods for the rural families, especially vulnerable sections and ensures sustainable livelihood, clean environment, good quality of life and human values. This will be achieved through effective utilization of local resources, extension, transfers of appropriate technologies, building village level institutions and their capacities. AVISHKAR is a secular, dedicated and professionally managed organisation.

About AVISHKAR

AVISHKAR is a non-governmental, non-profit, voluntary organisation conceived by a group of dedicated, young, social development professionals. The organisation was started in the year 2004 to initiate sustainable agricultural, social and rural development activities. The NGO aims to participate actively in the social transformation process. The organisation is committed to provide services for the development of women, farming community, vulnerable sections of the society with active involvement in development process.

The organisation aims to empower marginalised rural community with special emphasis on the following development programmes such as women empowerment, child education, sustainable agriculture, community health and natural resource management to accomplish sustainable, social and economic development. AVISHKAR is presently working most drought prone areas in 139 villages of the eight talukas in Tumkur district, Karnataka state.

Genesis of AVISHKAR

AVISHKAR is the outcome of successful implementation of projects for the development and improvement of the living standard of rural poor. The organisation has continual support of likeminded social workers and dedicated professionals. The founder of the organisation has experience, expertise, technical competence and support of dedicated team towards rural development. With this strength, a new institution as non-governmental organization is established in Tumkur.

The programmes are in aligning with the millennium development goals of United Nations, Ending poverty, providing basic education to all, abolition of child labour practice, providing the necessary skills to CBOs, to face the challenges of twenty first century, work for the conservation of nature, food security and natural resources. The organization is maintaining high degree of transparency, accountability and ensuring stakeholder's participation at all levels.



FORWARD

We are happy to share with you the Annual Report of AVISHKAR NGO, Tumkur for the year 2016-17. The NGO has got the opportunity to serve rural communities in the talukas of Koratagere, Gubbi, Kunigal Madhugiri, Sira, Pavagada and Tumkur talukas of Tumkur district through various projects. The NABARD sponsored projects like Farmer Technology Transfer Fund, Farmers Producers Organizations, Joint Liability Groups and Farmers Clubs are progressing well.

The farmers clubs are also actively engaged in development programmes at village level. These clubs are playing active role in the implementation of development projects with the support from line department and Banks. The two FPOs promoted at Yelarampura Gramapancha-yath of Koratagere taluk and Aregujjanahalli Gramapanchayath of Tumkur taluka are progressing well. We take this opportunity to sincerely thank the NABARD, Tumkur for support and cooperation extended to us.

The AVISHKAR has provided training and consultancy services to local NGOs in Tumkur and other districts. Hand holding services to watershed communities, organized capacity building activities for the SHGs etc. We express our gratitude for all organisations who have supported AVISHKAR.

AVISHKAR has provided the consultancy services for Project Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and base line survey in 10 villages of Sira taluka for Tumkur-Davanagere Railway project and Project Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and base line survey in 33 villages of Koratagere on Yettinahole drinking Water project. We are happy to extend our thanks to CMSR, Hyderabad for the opportunity provided to us for the above services.

We sincerely thank the FPOs, SHGs farmers clubs and JLGs and other community based organisations, who have extended support and cooperation in the effective and smooth implementation of all the projects during the year.

It is our pleasure to sincerely acknowledge the determined and dedicated services of our employees who have put in sincere and hard efforts to achieve the results. We extend our sincere gratitude for the well wishers of the organization for their generous support and cooperation.

- A. Anand Kumar
Secretary

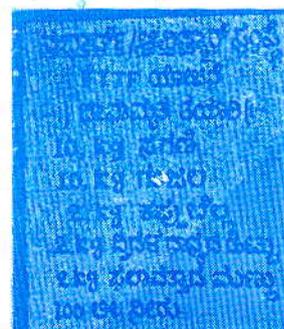
1. FIELD EXTENSION PROGRAMMES

1.1. NABARD- FTTF PROJECT : The project titled "improving livelihoods of framers through sustainable organic vegetable cultivation by Vegetable Growers Associations (VGAs) in Tumkur taluka of Tumkur district" has been implemented by AVISKAR. This project is financially supported by NABARD, Bangalore, to initiate organic farming in three villages covering 300 farmers. The objective of the project is to improve the livelihoods of rural poor through cultivation of vegetables using locally available resources and to establish institutional arrangements to achieve the sustainability in organic cultivation of vegetables. The activities were started during August -2014 and completed on July -2016. The project has benefited 300 farmers in three villages in Tumkur taluka of Tumkur district.



Project Objectives

- Formation of 'Vegetable Grower's Associations' (VGA's) at village level and their capacity building.
- To create awareness and adopt innovative technologies and eco-friendly practices for organic vegetables production at community level.
- To enhance vegetable production and improve productivity of land through promotion of eco-friendly agricultural practices.
- To reduce cost of production and dependency on external inputs for production of crops and vegetables.
- To establish linkages between vegetable growers and buyers, bankers, technical institutions.



Basic data of the project

Sl.No.	DESCRIPTION	DETAILS
1	Title of the project	FTTF - Sustainable Production of Organic Vegetable Growers Association
2	Sponsored by	NABARD, Bangalore
3	Implementation Agency	AVISHKAR, Tumkur
4	District, Taluk and Villages covered	Kadaranahalli, Janapanahalli, Hosapalya of Tumkur Taluk, Tumkur Dist.
5	Period of the Project	Two Years (Aug. 2014 to July 2016)



Field Demonstrations under FTTF Project

DEMONSTRATION	No. of Farmers Covered
1) Enriched composting Techniques	30
2) Preparation and application of Jeevamrutha	16
3) Providing Earthworms to Farmers	8
4) Demo plots for demonstration of organic farming on Potato, Tomato, Beans and Cabbage	60
5) Soil testing and distributed soil health cards	60
6) Promotion of Kitchen garden(backyard)	06
7) Convergence with Horticulture Dept.	12
8) Convergence with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hirehalli	52
9) Field level on different composting techniques mainly on farm yard manure rotation and application of bio-fertilizers	12
10) Participated and exhibited GKVK Krishimela at Bangalore	15
11) Field level demonstration of Jeevamrutha and Farm yard manure rotation	6

Participation in Exhibition at KVK, Hirehalli: The NGO has participated and exhibited organically grown vegetables and displayed FTTF project objectives, activities and live demonstrations on preparation of Jeevamrutha, vermicomposting and marketing of organically grown Vegetables at KVK Hirehalli

District level organic vegetable mela : District level organic Vegetable mela/ workshop was organized on 19.08.2016 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hirehalli near Tumkur.

Sri J.S.Veerabhadran, DDM, NANARD, Sri Narayana Reddy, well known organic farmer, Sri Sadashivappa, Progressive Organic farmer, Sri Anthony, Joint Director of Agriculture, Dr.K.Naganna E.O, Taluk panchyath Tumkur, Sri G.V.V. Shastry, noted yoga teacher and promoter of organic farming, Tumkur, Dr. Abraham Vargis, Scientist from I.I.H.R., Bangalore Sri Dr. Loganandan Programme coordinator KVK Hirehalli, scientists from KVK, Hirehalli, officials from Line departments, NGOs officials from Tumkur district, media representatives etc have participated the programme.

Project impact

- ✓ Vegetable cultivation with chemicals is slowly moving towards organic farming practices. In order to promote organic farming in the project villages, various methods of composting have been demonstrated. The activity also received lot of attention by the farmers. This also has reduced the application of chemical fertilizers and reduced the release of nitrates to atmosphere.
- ✓ Vegetable growers have realized importance soil fertility enhancement through application of enriched composting, Jeevamrutha, Biomass, and vermicompost manures.
- ✓ Vegetable growers have gained knowledge about preparation and application of Jeevamrutha and Beejamrutha.
- ✓ The overall impact on demonstration activities was good. The farmers have

adopted seed production, seed treatment, vermicompost and organic vegetable cultivation practices promptly. Five farmers are producing vermicompost manure.

- ✓ Farmers got knowledge in different mixed cropping systems instead of mono cropping



Visitors of FTTF - Project Area

Sl.No.	Date of Visit	Institution / NGO	No.of Participants	Visitors Opinion
1	20-09-2016	BAIF - Shiggaon, Haveri Dist.	25 Farmers and Two Officers	NGO effort was good in promoting Organic Farming with Vegetable Growers Assn.
2	06-03-2017	SACREAD, Ramanagar Dist.	19 Farmers and Two Officers	AVISHKAR, NGO adopted simple and adoptable techniques in Organic Vegetable cultivation.

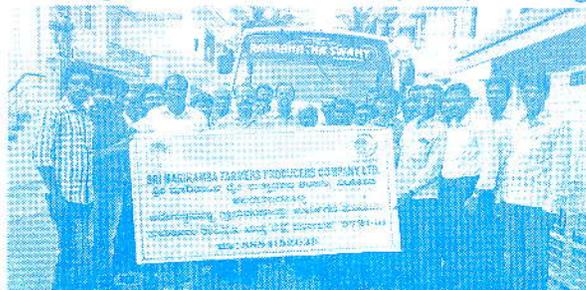
1.2 Farmers Producer Organization (FPO Project)

AVISHKAR is implementing Farmers Producer Organization Project (FPO) at Yelarampura Gramapanchayath of Koratagere taluka and Aregujjanahalli Gramapanchayath of Tumkur taluka of Tumkur district. NABARD, Bangalore, has sponsored this project. The FPO project is covering 800 farmers in nine villages of Yelarampura Gramapanchayath, Koratagere taluk, Tumkur district and 1000 farmers in ten villages of Aregujjanahalli Gramapanchayath, Tumkur taluka of Tumkur district. Awareness programmes like village meetings, formation of JLGs/FIGs, existing

CBOs meetings, base line survey, FPOs registration, training programmes for BOD & CEOs etc have been completed.

Project objectives

- To organize the farmers and bring them into the Institution (FPO).
- To provide inputs and services related to agriculture to farmers.
- Facilitate bulk sale and procurement of inputs for agriculture.
- To develop market linkages with wholesale traders, companies, production units and to avoid middlemen.
- To train the farmers on improved agriculture technologies and practices.
- To establish linkages with formal and informal institutions to mobilize the resources.
- To encourage farmers for value addition for agricultural produces.
- To support the farmers to produce bi-products from the agricultural produces



Name of the Farmers Producer Company	Produce / Crop Dealt by Company	No. of Producers	Location
1) Sri Marikamba Farmers Producers Company Ltd.	Organic Vegetables, Finger Millet and Pulses	800	Aregujanahalli G.P., Tumkur Tq. of Tumkur Dist.
2) Gramachethana Farmers Producers Company Ltd.	Groundnut, Maize, Small Millets and Pulses	1000	Yelerampura G.P., Koratagere Tq. of Tumkur Dist.



Progress as on March - 2017

Particulars	Achievement	
	Marikamba Farmers Producers Comp.Ltd.	Gramachethana Farmers Producers Comp.Ltd.
1) Awareness meetings/ Village meetings on FPO project	10	12
2) Existing CBOs meetings	08	10
3) Baseline data collection	296	253
4) Formation of Farmers interest groups (FIG)	04	05
5) Formation of JLGs	22	26
6) Farmers share collection	176320	153650
7) FPO training programme conducted	01	01
8) BOD meetings conducted	10	10
9) BOD training	02	02
10) CEQs training & exposure visits	03	03

1.3 KWDP-II Sujala-III (Horticulture) Project

The NGO is providing consultancy services for formation of farmers interest groups (FIG), conducting trainings to horticulture farmers and field days under World Bank

assisted KWDP-II, Sujala-III (Horticulture component). The KWDP-II Sujala-III watershed development programme was sponsored by Horticulture department, Tumkur. The project is benefitting the communities in 82 micro watersheds, covering 1725 families in 27 gramapanchayaths in Madhugiri, Sira, Pavagada, Gubbi, Kunigal and Tumkur talukas of Tumkur district.

Project objective

- To demonstrate effective watershed management through greater integration of programmes related to rain-fed Horticulture, innovative and science based approaches, and strengthened institutions and capacities.
- To adopt a collective approach for building the capacity of farmers through training, field days and developing crop specific literature

The core activities for the NGO were,

- To build awareness about the project at the village level through village meetings and Gramasabhas.
- Identification of the micro watershed project villages



1.5 Formation and Strengthening of Joint Liability Groups (JLG)

The project for the formation of Joint Liability Groups (JLG) is under implementation in Tumkur taluka of Tumkur district. The project is under implementation in 32 villages. The project was sponsored by NABARD, Tumkur. All the JLGs are functioning well with regular meetings. Training and awareness programmes for JLG have been conducted at regular intervals.



Project Objectives

- To augment flow of credit to farmers, especially small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral lessees, share croppers/ individuals taking up farm activities.
- To serve as collateral substitute for loans to be provided to the target group
- To build mutual trust and confidence between bank and the target group.
- To minimize the risks in the loan portfolio for the banks through group approach, cluster approach, peer education and credit discipline.
- To provide food security to vulnerable sections by enhanced agriculture production, productivity and livelihood promotion through JLG mechanism.

The core activities of JLGs are,

- Creation of awareness and formation of JLG
- Training and capacity building for JLGs.
- Regular savings by the JLG members.
- JLG grading for bank linkages

- Providing bank linkages for JLGs for starting income generation activities and to cater to the different needs like seeds, fertilizers and allied agriculture activities.

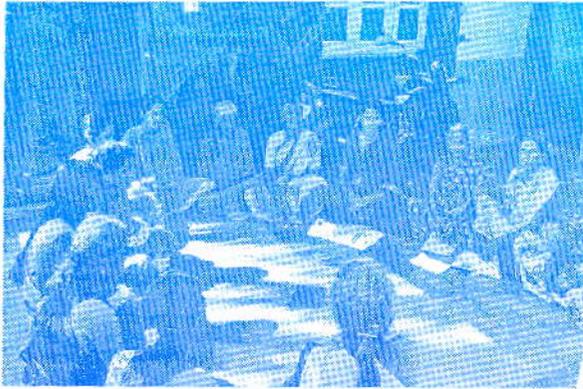
JLGs Progress as on 31-03-2017

Activities	Achievement
1) Taluks covered	2
2) Villages covered	38
3) JLGs formed	93
4) No. of JLGs bank linked	52
5) Total amount of loan availed	92 Lakhs
6) Repayment	96%
7) No. of JLGs bank linked-II linkage	19
8) Training on IGA activities	69
9) Training on book keeping	35

1.6 Empowerment of Women through SHGs & JLGs

The organization is working towards encouraging and facilitating the formation of women SHGs and JLGs. During year, focused to upgrade the skills and capacities of the members of SHGs through training and capacity building of SHGs and JLGs in our project villages. SHGs for women are viewed as an appropriate plat form for socio- economic empowerment. In an effort to tap the potential present in women, the organization has conducted training and capacity building inputs for formation and strengthening of SHGs. During the year, following women development activities were carried out.

- Strengthening of SHGs on the issues like SHG roles and responsibilities, credit management, books updation and bank linkages.
- Sensitized the members about government programmes and motivating them to involve in all the village development activities.
- 21 SHGs have been linked with Banks and other micro finance institutions for taking up various livelihood activities



- Conducted two days training programme for book keeping & financial management.
- The organization has formed women JLGs for take up livelihood programmes.

2. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Training and capacity building of the communities plays a key role in the successful execution of the development projects. AVISHKAR has organized the following training programmes during the current year. Totally 414 farmers have participated in the trainings.

Name of the Training	Trainings Conducted	Participants Participated
1) Innovative technologies in vegetable cultivation	5	93
2) Soil & Water conservation & Soil testing	3	46
3) Sustainable Agriculture	2	39
4) Technical training program on Potato cultivation	1	23
5) Organic Farming different composting techniques	3	87
6) Dry land horticulture development	6	126
7) SHG concept & Book keeping	2	38
8) Entrepreneurship training for SHGs & JLGs	2	26

Impacts

- Increased awareness on the sustainable management of natural resources

- Awareness on in situ production of manures for organic farming
- Increased role of CBOs in village development activities-shramadan, plantation, sanitation etc
- Regular functioning of SHGs, JLGs and Farmer clubs

3. CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The NGO is providing consultancy and training services to the local NGOs, interested farmers and government departments. Following activities were carried out during the year.

- The organization has provided consultancy services for Tumkur-Davanagere Railway Project Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and base line survey in 10 villages of Sira taluka of Tumkur district, Karnataka.
- The organization has provided consultancy services for Yettinahole drinking Water Project Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and base line survey in 33 villages of Koratagere and Tumkur taluka of Tumkur district, Karnataka.
- Provided training and consultancy services to dept of agriculture, watershed development dept, local NGOs, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK).

Details of community based organizations promoted

Type of the CBOs promoted	Achievement
1) Farmers producers organizations(FPO)	02
2) Vegetable growers association	04
3) Joint Liability Groups (JLG)	93
4) Women SHGs	165
5) Farmer Clubs	19
6) Women Farmer Clubs	02
7) Farmers Interest Groups	174
8) Youth Groups	04
TOTAL	463

5. Summary of on going Projects

Project Name	Sponsored by	Project Location	Villages Covered	Families Covered
1) Farmer Technology Transfer Fund (FTTF) Project	NABARD, Bangalore	Tumkur Taluk, Tumkur Dist.	03	300
2) KWDP-II Sujala Watershed III (Horticulture) Project	Horticulture Dept., Tumkur	Sira, Pavagada, Gubbi, Kunigal, Madhugiri & Tumkur Tq.s of Tumkur Dist.	123	1725
3) Farmers Producers Organization (FPO Project)	NABARD, Bangalore	Tumkur & Koratagere Taluks of Tumkur Dist.	22	1600
4) Formation & Strengthening of Farmers Clubs and JLGS	NABARD, Bangalore	Tumkur & Koratagere Taluks of Tumkur Dist.	36	960
5) Empowerment of Women through SHGS and JLGS:	KVR Construction, Bangalore	Tumkur & Koratagere Taluks of Tumkur Dist.	69	3890

6. Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank and acknowledge the generous support, guidance and cooperation extended to us by our donors and well wishers such as,

- ☞ NABARD, Bangalore
- ☞ CMSR-INDIA, Hyderabad
- ☞ Deputy Director, Horticulture Department, Tumkur
- ☞ Kaveri Grameena Bank (KGB), Tumkur
- ☞ DDM, NABARD, Tumkur
- ☞ CANARA Bank, Tumkur
- ☞ Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Hirehalli, Tumkur district
- ☞ KVR Construction, Bangalore
- ☞ Individual Donors& supporters





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